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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1907.

Germany and Disarmament.

Chancellor von Buelow's statement to the Reichstag that Germany will take no part in the discussion at the coming Hague Conference of the limitation or reduction of armaments may be taken as proof that the imperial government has not advanced one step beyond its attitude on the same subject at the first conference. In fact, its present position represents a retrogression, for at the former conference the German delegates took part in the discussion and assented to the declaration adopted respecting limitation of armaments, whereas at the forthcoming conference the delegates, as we infer from the tenor of the chancellor's remarks, will be instructed to refrain from taking part in the discussion, even as a matter of good will. The chancellor is careful to explain that Germany's abstention from the discussion "does not mean that she cherishes a secret desire for war, or that she is actuated by military ambition or other selfish motives." She is governed by the maxim that the best way to preserve peace is to keep in readiness for war, a maxim that has distinguished advocates in other parts of the world than Germany.

With some show of sarcasm, the chancellor remarks that Germany has not been able to discover a formula for the limitation of armaments "which takes into account the great diversity in the geographical, economic, and military positions of the various states, or one which would be calculated to remove those diversities and serve as a basis for a treaty." The difficulty of arriving at such a formula is admittedly great; perhaps it is wholly impossible, but there is a certain formula common to the military forces of all first-class powers to which definite limitations may be applied. One of these factors is the size of war vessels, as to which President Roosevelt has suggested that "the most practicable step in diminishing the burden of expense caused by the increasing size of naval armaments would be an agreement limiting the size of all ships hereafter to be built."

We shall be much surprised if a great deal is heard of this President's suggestion at the Hague Conference. It is a really practicable proposition, and one to which all the powers could agree without in any respect affecting the relative strength of their naval forces. It would have been more useful if it could have been acted upon before the development of the present craze for Dreadnoughts, but even so, it may, if adopted, prove beneficial in preventing the naval powers from pursuing to further extremes the mad contest to outclass each other in the construction of naval monstrosities. If the Hague Conference may not be invoked to stop the construction of 20,000-ton battle ships, it can at least reach an agreement that no ships of larger size shall be built, as is threatened, and fix a definite limit to naval follies.

If that English critic who says this country has not one acknowledged literary genius will come over and make a tour of Indiana he will receive a series of glassy stares that will hold him for awhile!

Mr. Sullivan Is Disappointing.

We are distinctly and regretfully disappointed in Mr. John Lawrence Sullivan—a gentleman of whose many fine traits we have heretofore made much mention. He has tumbled headlong from the proud eminence of fame to which we had cheerfully assigned him, and now lies at our feet a hero with pedant exuberance composed entirely of clay—a warrior in whose prowess we no longer delight.

When first we learned that Cupid contemplated entering the sentimental squared circle with the mighty "John L.," we rejoiced and were exceedingly glad. We felt assured that the old hero of the roped arena would come to the scratch like a man and take his medicine. While after hearing him with the same old we were inclined to bet that he, as once he did before, would again enter the ring once too often, yet we saw nothing but roseate days ahead, "for a' that and a' that." Alas, for misplaced confidence! Alack, that hero worship should fall to such low repute! In answer to well-intentioned questions concerning Mr. Sullivan's reported approaching marriage, the mighty man of muscle and assembled digits said:

"Blow youse whistle, sonny; you are at a crossing. My fighting days are over! It's too big a match for me to take on; I guess I won't sign the articles of agreement."

And this from "John L.," the king-pin of them all for courage, and the man who never flinched, never fouled, and never failed to hit the line hard! After singing his praises for all these many moons, we are placarding him with the same badge of our abundant approval, to have him thus "lay down" before any undertaking is more than we can, with resignation, bear. To have him skeedaddle in the face of this emergency brings more sorrow than anger to our heart, but it fills us with bitter humiliation and poignant resentment nevertheless!

We had thought better of Mr. Sullivan. We imagined that his lion heart beat stout as of yore, and that he would rise to the demands of this magnificent occasion and prove true all of our erstwhile fulsome and weighty indorsement. But

it was not to be. There he is, down and out; a hero that was, and a champion with broken and shattered lance.

It is sad to thus lay bare the fatal shortcomings of this man of whom we have so oft soared aloft in rhetorical grandeur and illuminating English. But duty to a trusting and confiding constituency demands that we tell the truth.

"John L." is a mollycoddle!

Market Item: The stubbornly bearish attitude of Messrs. Frost, Boreas & Co. is believed to have crowded the well-known firm of Sunshine & Roses almost to the verge of bankruptcy.

A Word or Two of Reproof.

We are very much obliged to the Advertiser of the Charleston News and Courier, for its compliments, but we are impelled by a sense of duty to reprove it for throwing bricks at Andy Jackson. "Some days ago The Herald, which knows its history," says the News and Courier, "spoke of Andrew Jackson as a South Carolinian by birth. The Norfolk Landmark, with that independence of initiative which distinguishes so often the work of the ill-informed, assumed to correct the statement of The Herald by substituting North Carolina for South Carolina. There has been a long controversy about this point, but it is only the intention to oblige who longer claim that Andrew Jackson was born in North Carolina. It might have been better for the country and good politics if he had never been born, but there is no mistaking the fact that he was a native of South Carolina."

Alas and a-lack-a-day! Will South Carolina never forget and forgive? It has been seventy-five years since Old Hickory got after Calhoun and Hamilton and Hayne, and made them behave, but the fond is still on. Their children's children, as represented by our fine old Bourbon friend, the News and Courier, are sighing and saying that "it might have been better for the country and good politics if he had never been born!" Do we hear such mutterings as these against George Washington among the descendants in Western Pennsylvania of the refractory folk whom Washington lashed back into the Union after they had organized their white rebellion? We have never heard the Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, whose grandfather presided over the Hartford convention, utter a word of censure against the fair fame of James Madison for treating contemptuously that secession movement. Let us tell Editor Hemphill that had Jackson never been born, and born in South Carolina at that, South Carolina might not now be in this Union, and Massachusetts would not have had the opportunity to bring on the civil war. But for Jackson's Nullification Proclamation, with its unanswerable logic on the side of the "perpetual Union," Horace Greeley's "erring sisters" might have "departed in peace."

"It might have been better for the country and good politics if he had never been born!" Zounds and 'sblood! What rumblings there would be in the celestial skies; what excitement there would be upon the golden streets; how the pearly gates would shake and tremble; how all Valhalla would resound with mighty noise should this South Carolina lament reach the ears of Old Hickory, reposing majestically upon his high seat! Regretting upon his deathbed that he "had not hanged John C. Calhoun when he had him in his power," Jackson might seize upon the disembodied spirit of that great man and hang it to the celestial vault! Then, what would South Carolina do? We ask Editor Hemphill to answer that question, or, forsooth, hold his peace.

From this time forward, the more or less Hon. Charles Murphy, of New York, will probably subsist principally upon lemon pie.

Bryan and Beveridge on Trusts.

William J. Bryan and Senator Beveridge clash in the May number of The Reader on the subject of trusts and their treatment. Mr. Bryan argues for the "dissolution of every private monopoly and the prevention of new ones." Mr. Beveridge, on the other hand, stands for the regulation and cure of the admitted evils which have arisen out of the use of immense capitals in industrial and commercial enterprises, believing that centralized industrial organization is a product of natural economic forces, and that its beneficent results may be preserved without annihilating the efficient machinery of production and distribution. He holds his peace, by great captains of industry. The Indiana Senator, therefore, appears as a defender of centralized and highly capitalized industrial organization, under governmental regulation intended to avert the public dangers attendant on such organization, while Mr. Bryan opposes such centralized industry, at least in so far as it tends toward private monopoly.

Both disputants have legislative plans for the regulation of corporations which run closely parallel. Mr. Bryan brings forward the conference, Mr. Beveridge presented by him to the Chicago trust conference some years ago, and recently indorsed by the administration. "A Federal statute of a few lines," says Mr. Bryan, "will provide for an interstate license and forbid a State corporation to do business outside of the State of its origin without securing such a license. A few more lines will set forth the conditions upon which the license may be secured—conditions which will make a private monopoly impossible." In his address at the Chicago trust conference, Mr. Bryan thought a Federal license should be granted on conditions which would, first, prevent watering of stock; second, prevent monopoly in any branch of business, and third, provide for publicity as to all the transactions and business of the corporation. He would now add to these conditions a fourth, "one arbitrarily fixing the total proportion of the total product that the licensed corporation would be permitted to control."

Mr. Beveridge is familiar with this line of reasoning, for he has used it himself with force and effect often enough in the Senate, but he is willing to go a step further in Federal regulation, and place corporations doing an interstate business under the same conditions as those which govern State corporations so long as they confine their operations to the State of their origin. It is within the scope of the power of Congress to prescribe the terms upon which a corporation organized in any State shall engage in interstate commerce.

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government. "All corporations that do business not with New Jersey alone," he remarks, "but with the whole American people, should be controlled by laws passed, not by the legislature of New Jersey or Delaware, but by the Congress of the whole American people." For the present, he admits, this is impossible, though he is of opinion that a national incorporation law could be passed with respect to railroads doing an interstate business. He would thus make "railroads that do a nation-wide business incorporate under nation-wide laws." He fears that Mr. Bryan's Federal license plan is not feasible as to other corporations, but if it is, he is willing to have it tried as a preliminary to a national incorporation law.

We gather from this brief summary of the true remedies of the Reader's disputants that the chief point of difference between them, so far, at least, as the present is concerned, relates to the purpose rather than the nature and scope of national legislation. Both would make use of the Federal power to the utmost consistent with any reasonable construction of the all-inclusive interstate commerce clause of the Constitution, but while Mr. Bryan would seek the "dissolution and prevention" of monopoly, Mr. Beveridge would attempt regulation and control. The removal of both methods toward the centralization of power in the Federal government; Mr. Bryan's plan as such concession to State rights as possible; Mr. Beveridge's with as little as is necessary. The Federal government, in the opinion of both debaters, is alone powerful enough either to regulate or to destroy the great organizations of capital by which our trade, industry, and transportation are so largely carried on.

The idea that Mr. Roosevelt should be elected President for life originated in Boston. Shades of our honorable ancestors who gave that famous "Boston tea party!"

Naval Contract Methods.

The Paymaster General of the navy has instituted some improvements in the system of bidding for government contracts under the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, and in other transactions between business firms and the branch of the Navy Department which has to do with the acquisition of naval supplies. There is no branch of the government which is conducted on more businesslike lines than the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department, and it is gratifying to know that the principles of commercial celerity and enterprise are continuing, to the steady improvement of the system. The removal of both methods toward the centralization of power in the Federal government; Mr. Bryan's plan as such concession to State rights as possible; Mr. Beveridge's with as little as is necessary. The Federal government, in the opinion of both debaters, is alone powerful enough either to regulate or to destroy the great organizations of capital by which our trade, industry, and transportation are so largely carried on.

It is also proposed to overhaul the method of inspection of material delivered under contract at navy yards. This is a step which remains to be taken in the system of purchasing naval supplies, and it will pay to give particular attention to the whole method from beginning to the end, that there may be a competent, impartial, and thorough inspection of material, not only for the protection of the government against the acceptance of inferior articles, but that worthy bidders may be assured that their crooked rivals are not able to get the inspectors to pass material which does not come up to the specifications.

A Pennsylvania negro has been sentenced to one year in prison for carrying a razor. The negro doesn't enjoy many rights north of Mason and Dixon's line that he doesn't enjoy fully, if not more so, south of the same.

Montenegro threatens to pull off a revolution, though it is doubtful that there is room enough in the country to make a good, all round job of it.

"Prescott wmb wmb wmb U hmb!" says the Portland Oregonian. Perhaps Prescott is that real Democrat for whom the New York World has been vainly searching these many days.

An American heiress has gone abroad in order to "escape fortune hunters." This will be good news to the fortune hunters who are unable to get over this side.

A New York policeman leveled his pistol at a would-be suicide the other day, and told him he would be shot dead if he did not at once drop the pistol with which he was threatening himself, whereupon the would-be suicide dropped it like a flash. Self-preservation is the first law of nature.

"Caruso has quit the land of Yankee Doodle," notes a contemporary. It is hoped that he has also quit the ways of monkey-doodle.

An eight-year-old Pennsylvania boy has been arrested for robbing a post-office. They begin early in Pennsylvania, though they generally display more shrewdness about getting caught.

The Memphis Commercial-Appeal is mistaken. It will not be "a Jesse Jamestown Exposition." Though, of course, one may expect to be "held up," more or less, on the Warpath.

A former Kansas is said to be slated for Mr. Loeb's office, in case that gentleman accepts his rumored promotion. Kansas, as a rule, do not mind having the blame for curious and unusual ideas thrust upon them.

"Denver wants both conventions next year," says the Punksatway Spirit. Here is a fine opportunity for some statesman to finish up the Graves suggestion by advocating a joint convention of Republicans and Democrats.

The Department of Agriculture advises farmers not to kill skunks. To a farmer who has once essayed the task, the advice is probably entirely superfluous.

The Savannah News thinks "we are shy on poets." Most of us certainly shy at poets.

As to "undesirable citizens": The candidates of the opposition party are always to be classed as such.

Perhaps those Egyptian camels were all named Roosevelt because the camel is such a notoriously rough rider.

"John W. Gates earns long rest," notes the New York Telegraph. You mean "wins," don't you?

It appears that the stork has contracted the usual Spanish ailment, "garrana."

A French scientist has invented a machine that will automatically register the thoughts of the mind. Perhaps it may yet be possible to keep with Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Bryan without so much exertion.

And now comes the Houston Post and credits North Carolina with being the birthplace of Andrew Jackson. The Post is The Washington Herald's most rancorous disseminator.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

SPRING ENEM.

Well, gentle spring is here
With violets blue.
And lots of vernal cheer,
And—ah—chercher!

The tinkling raindrops fall
Upon the roof.
What thoughts do they recall
Of—ah—cheerhoof!

The love-lit blooms adorn
Each bush and shrub.
How sweet to stroll at morn
Among—gubbiub!

I love the gentle spring,
The woodland mold.
But what a beastly thing
To have a cold!

Washington Items.

Spring is behaving better.

Joe Foraker has got his corn planted.
George Cortelyou Thursday at Wall Street Junction.

"Uncle Tom's" Cabin at Town Hall to-night. Eight Little Evils and four Uncle Toms.

Bill Taft killed a snake yesterday with eighteen rattles and a teaching ring.

There's a some talk of Bill Leach quitting his job.

James K. Jones won the hog-guessing contest. Jim is not usually such a good estimator.

Ed Harriman was in town Tuesday trying to trade two coonskins for a pot of lard. Tainted coonskins!

A Wonderment.

I wonder whether a suit
Of hair or wool
Adorns that mystic brute,
The Irish bull!

The Result.

"To-day I met an irresistible body."
"What happened?"
"I followed her for twenty blocks."

Good Joke.

"Well, all nature is smiling."
"Over the April we had to stand for, hey?"

The Wherefore.

"He's a bum, a loafer, with a whisky nose and no job. I wonder why on air he married him?"
"I expect he must have axed her to, jabber."

Quite So.

When the enterprising murderer isn't killing, isn't devastating villages and towns, we will very often find the lady willing to furnish full descriptions of her gowns.

FLEETING FANCIES.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

Showers—heaven's teardrops—most as sweet as morning dew—
Don't you know them bringing violets to smile and wink at you?
Don't you know they're bringing garments for the valleys, hills, and trees—
That each rain drop drips of Maytime, and of Junetime's balmy breeze?

Showers—April showers—and they'll bring the roses sweet,
And the fragrant clover blossoms in the meadows where the feet
May absently go wandering—where nature's blithe airs
Will mingle with the perfume, driving backward all the cares.

Showers—April showers—let them clothe all out of doors,
Spreading wide their velvet carpeting of green upon the floors.
There is joy in Wisconsin when all nature is in attire,
And her showers—they are bringing dreamy days of May and June!

Recklessly Extravagant.

"I am of the opinion," said the president of the bank to the board of directors, "that our paying teller needs watching."

"Why so?" they asked.
"In the restaurant to-day I noticed that he was eating new potatoes."

Side Lights.

Rubbished your back yard?
It's none of our business, but don't forget when you move to-morrow that the shades belong to the landlord.

Will winter and spring kindly quit hugging each other?
A Pennsylvania miner filled his mouth with powder and then set fire to it. Beats all how easily some people lose their head.

And now a wise one comes forth with the announcement that the wearing of light clothing is a cure for blushing. The item doesn't say just how light the clothing must be, so it's left for you who blush to experiment.

According to an eminent physician, everybody has pneumonia.
Konioses. Class will please rise and pronounce it without dislocating their faces.

Together.

You can always find the sunshine, you expect that the weather will be light.
No matter what the skies or what the weather,
If a hand is out to guide you through the pathway true and right,
And you ever hear a voice: "We'll go together."

Watterson's Definition of Democracy
From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Tariff reform and State rights; these are keywords of Democracy. The Democratic party is the arch-enemy of predatory trusts. It would smash them, and it would do it in the simplest and most effectual way. This way is to revise the tariff and reduce its duties to a revenue basis. A Democratic President would slay forth, like St. George of old, and stab the dragon of omnivorous plutocracy with a spear labeled "Tariff for Revenue Only." He would not dally, as does our "almost Democratic" Mr. Roosevelt, with a few mosquitoes that buzz around.

Most Favored Nation.
From the Chicago Examiner.

Nature, when she laid the foundation of what is now America, decreed that this should be forever the home of the most favored nation.

Mr. Taft Got There First.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

Now it is said Mr. Cox, of Cincinnati, will not endorse Taft. It will be recalled that Mr. Taft had the first refusal.

A Promising Candidate.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

We expect that Col. George Harvey will loom up as an "undesirable citizen" presently.

MAYING IN 1907.

Lay my miter by the hedge,
My gaiters on the chair;
Have a chest protector handy,
Put the umbrella there.
Get a suit of heavy flannels.
From my fur chase moths away;
For I'm to be Queen of the May, mother,
I'm to be Queen of the May.

Better have the doctor waiting;
Keep a mustard plaster hot;
Fix some dope to rub my lungs with,
I shall need it like no other;
And if friends should come to see me,
You will simply have to say
That I have been Queen of the May, mother,
I have been Queen of the May.

Philadelphia Public Ledger.

MEN AND THINGS.

Taft and the Railroads.

On his projected trip to the Southwest Secretary Taft has announced his purpose to deliver one or more speeches on the subjects of railroad regulation and the Brownsville incident. It is interesting to note in this connection that at the inception of those administration measures he occupied ground much closer to that upon which his distinguished opponent, Senator Foraker, stood, and still stands, than that which the President originally occupied in the one case and continues firmly to hold in the other. Every member of the President's Cabinet, except his Attorney General, then the Hon. William H. Moody, now an associate judge of the Supreme Court, was opposed to the Delivered-Hopkins bill, which had Mr. Roosevelt's ardent support. Secretaries Root and Taft persistently and urgently advised the President against the bill, mainly because of its provisions for a narrow court review, which, had it remained in the bill, would have made the Interstate Commerce Commission and not the Federal courts the law-making power. Secretary Taft, having come from the Federal bench to the Cabinet, advised the President that the courts would probably declare the law unconstitutional, and the narrow court review provision remain in the bill. After the President assented to its being struck out, Mr. Taft favored the bill. It will be remembered, also, that the Secretary of War recommended to the President a suspension of his order summarily dismissing three companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry until the case could be more fully investigated. This recommendation was made while Mr. Taft was in the White House, and the President was in Porto Rico en route home from Panama. Secretary Taft was in Cuba when the President ordered the dismissal of the troops. Thus, in a sense, Judge Taft and Senator Foraker were for a while not very far apart on two of the most interesting policies of the administration.

A Permanent Resident.

The Hon. Perry Belmont will depart from Washington a few days, and has engaged passage for Europe May 15. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Belmont, and they will be gone until about next October. While retaining his legal residence in New York, Mr. Belmont is now a permanent resident of Washington. The new mansion he is having built in New Hampshire avenue, opposite the residence of Thomas Nelson Page, the author, will be the finest private house in the Capital. The bare building will cost more than a half million dollars, the landscape gardening and approaches will involve an expenditure of a hundred thousand or so, the furnishings will cost several hundred thousand, and thus Mr. Belmont will make an outlay exceeding a million dollars on his Washington home.

Although a very rich man, Perry Belmont affects few, if any, of the manners of the New York 49, in which he was born. He served four years in the House of Representatives before he was forty, and for a time was chairman of the great Committee on Foreign Affairs. A loyal Democrat, he does not seek office for himself, though he would not be out of anything affecting his party, and shows lively concern in public affairs generally, as illustrated by his persistent efforts to have enacted a national public law regarding campaign contributions and expenditures.

Two Probable Vacancies.

It begins to look as though Rhode Island will not be the only State with only one Senator at the opening of the next Congress. The legislature of Rhode Island having failed to elect, the Senate rules established in the Constitution require the governor to appoint the first and second choice of each member of the legislature, and the second choice of any member of the legislature.

For the first time in many years the Senate at its last session had its full quota of members, and the two vacancies had existed from a number of States, due to factional rows like those that prevented election at Providence, and threatened to deadlock the legislature at Madison, Delaware was the chief offender in this regard, though Utah, Washington, Oregon, and Pennsylvania were in the same category.

High Salaries.

John Hays Hammond is believed to be the highest-salaried man in the world. His income from his profession as a mining engineer is \$80,000 a year. Hammond is a Californian, and was born in San Francisco fifty-two years ago. In the course of his career he has traveled in every part of the world where gold has been found, or where its presence has been suspected. His word is law to investors. If he says "yes" financial kings will spend millions for purchase or development of gold mines, and his highly skilled assistants who visit mines under question all over the earth and report to him. His present regular salaries come almost entirely from European capitalists interested in South African mines. It is believed that next to Hammond, W. E. Corey, president of the steel trust, is the highest-salaried man in the world. When Charles M. Schwab occupied Corey's place it was generally understood his salary was a million dollars a year. When Schwab resigned the salary of the position was reduced to less than half a million. A few railroad presidents in the United States receive salaries of about \$100,000, though their number is very small. President Lore now in the Delaware and Hudson, three years ago was taken from the presidency of the Baltimore and Ohio and placed at the head of the Rock Island system at a salary of \$100,000. The highest salary of any railroad president here, while higher than that in Europe, is not more than \$20,000. Some selected newspaper publishers and editors are paid more than that.

Lucky Secretary Taft.

From the Toledo Blade.

It is Secretary Taft's good fortune that inclination, duty, and discretion run in parallel grooves in this connection, for there is then no necessity that he discipline his ambition or wrestle with conscience. He can prosecute his work cheerfully and loyally, confident that the people are watching and approving.

Unnecessary Trouble.

From the Chattanooga Times.

It seems that the railroads have not instituted a secret movement among their employees to find out whether President Roosevelt is popular or not. Such a project was not necessary, for they had to do so to ask any of their neighbors.

Ungrateful Good-by.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Next year, unless something happens, the country will have to take its choice between Bryan and Taft. It has always opposed the third term and it has twice refused Bryan, but there is no other alternative in sight.

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